II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Nuclear Power Station

* 102 *Q.*—Vidwan T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Kalpakkam near Mahabalipuram has been selected for the setting up of a nuclear power station?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : The question of selecting sites for the establishment of nuclear power stations is under the consideration of the Government of India.

Vidwan T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : Sir, in the 'Hindu' of the 27th April last, it was stated that this State Government had selected four sites near about Mahabalipuram, but preferred Kalpakkam because of the availability of water, hard ground, and its distance from the thickly populated areas. Was this not brought to the notice of the Government?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, I am not responsible for any statement appearing in the press.

திரு. க. அன்பழகன் : தலைவர் அவர்களே, அணுசக்தி மின் நிலையம் தமிழ்நாட்டில் அமைப்பதற்கு உத்தரவு பெற்றாகி விட்டதா? உத்தரவு பெறுவதில் இன்னும் தடை இருக்கிறதா?

கனம் திரு. ஆர். வெங்கட்ராமன் : இது மத்திய சர்க்கார் அமைக்கவேண்டியது. தென்னகத்தில் இருக்கிற மூன்று நான்கு ராஜ்யங்களில் எந்த இடத்தில் அமைத்தாலும், அது நன்றாக வெற்றிகரமாக இருக்குமென்று ஆலோசனை செய்கிறார்கள். அதனால் எந்த எந்த இடங்களில் அமைக்கமுடியுமென்பதற்குப் பரிசோதனை நடந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. அப்படி நடக்கும்போது தமிழகத்தில் இரண்டு இடங்களைப் பார்த்திருக்கிறார்கள்.

Cotton yarn

* 103 *Q.* Sri S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state the number of bales of cotton yarn in each count produced in the mills situated in the State in each of the quarters from January 1959 to June 1961?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : A statement [a] is placed on the table of the House.

Sri S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Sir, from the statement it is seen that production has increased from 1959 to 1961 in spite of the fact that there was scarcity during 1960–61. Have the Government gone into the reasons of this scarcity in the market during these years?

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 39

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THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The consumption has increased much greater than production. Actually I have got the break-up of the consumption figures. Sixty-four thousand and six hundred bales were produced. Twenty-three thousand five hundred and thirty bales were consumed by handlooms. Thousand four hundred bales were consumed by powerlooms. This itself shows that the consumption of yarn has gone up phenomenally. We have very few powerlooms, but still 1,400 bales are consumed by them. The weaving mills consumed 9,900 bales. The quantity consumed by miscellaneous consumers for the manufacture of ropes, etc., is three to four hundred bales. The quantity exported to other places is 4,300 bales.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Sir, from the statement placed on the table of the House, it is seen that the production of yarn of 31 to 40s has gone down. What is the reason for this?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : That would depend upon the market. If there is a demand for counts of over 40, there will be production. I think I can also say that there is one factor which has contributed to this. We have regulated the price of the yarn of 40s and below. Probably the mills thought of taking counts of over 40s so that they may get the market price on it.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : In order to circumvent the regulations or the fixation of price, the mills have taken this step. Will the Government see that such things are not adopted by the mills in future?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : They would not produce anything which has no sale in the market. If they produce counts of over 40s and do not find a market for it, then they will not produce it. Therefore, we cannot say that they have done so only to circumvent the fixation of price. Now the matter has become one past history. We have now regulated the issue of yarn by an agreement which the hon. Member himself knows.

State Transport

* 104 Q.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the discourteous behaviour of the drivers and conductors of the State Transport buses towards the passengers;

(*b*) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the criticisms in the daily newspapers in regard to the rude behaviour of the drivers and conductors; and

(*c*) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) to (*c*) Government are aware of complaints regarding discourteous behaviour of some drivers and conductors of the State Transport buses towards the passengers and of the criticism in the press on this subject. All